

**Curriculum Directors Meeting  
January 9, 2008  
Davis School District Auditorium**

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**Place:** Davis School District Auditorium, 45 East State Street, Farmington. The agenda, minutes, and PowerPoint for this meeting are available at [www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curriculum](http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curriculum).

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

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**I. Greetings and Introductions**

*Lynne Greenwood welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming in spite of the inclement weather.*

- a. Discussion:** *Greg Garth (Juvenile Justice Committee/Governor's Committee) Greg presented an opportunity for students to participate in a National Writing Competition Event. The essay is to address how youth violence has impacted their lives and how they have dealt with the situation. Last year, 2,200 students participated and wrote 1,100 essays. Criminal law students reviewed the essays, choosing the top 90 and then the top 12. The 90 will receive certificates from the Governor. The reports from the essay event were positive illustrating that children can find their voices. The top 12 will have lunch with the Governor. Two of the 12, a boy and a girl, will go to Washington D.C. to meet with legislators on youth issues. Input will be addressed from previously completed youth surveys. (A handout was reviewed and can be found at [www.utah.gov](http://www.utah.gov).*
- b. Discussion:** *"Do the Write Thing" essay is due January 21<sup>st</sup>. Essays will be accepted all that week.*

**II. Topic: Addressing Local Needs**

- a. Discussion:** *Handout: Curriculum Survey Form. Please complete and return to Patty, Lynne's secretary or email it directly to Lynne. The survey is to provide recommendations for the Curriculum Department to better serve you as Curriculum Directors. Any ideas for documents, study committees, models, or professional development, please share. At the USOE, we would like to be proactive in addressing your needs.*

**III. Topic: Pending Legislation**

- a. Discussion:** *Lynne reviewed a legislative tracking sheet saying that these items will not be everything that is addressed in the legislative session. The document is only a beginning look at this year's session. Be watchful of these legislative activities, as to their affect on local districts. The USOE Board is supportive of funding for: ELL, Adolescent Literacy, Math, and Technology.*

**IV. Topic: Spotlight on Implementation:**

**Utah's 3-Tier Model of Reading Instruction**

- a. **Discussion:** *The Center for Instruction, a National Organization, is placing Utah's 3 Tier model on their website. Utah's document is a framework for districts to use.*
- b. **Discussion:** *The Davis District's 3-tier model was illustrated through a video watched by the Curriculum Directors. The video can be found on the following Davis web site:*  
[http://www.davis.k12.ut.us/videos/Utah ABC Triangle.wmv](http://www.davis.k12.ut.us/videos/Utah_ABC_Triangle.wmv).
- c. *Jill Snyder, of Davis District, reported that the model is part of an ongoing project in the Davis District. There is a big coaching initiative starting in Davis. The Literacy Coaching Model has been started in two new schools using 6 coaches working under district direction to assist students and teachers in classrooms. Davis is moving forward with math and science. There will be instructional coaches for all subjects. Coaches will do modeling and co-teaching in schools where improvement is needed. Coaches will be able to evaluate where the needs are and work with principals on content area strategies. Collective groups with content-rich teachers collaborate for greater success. Davis reported, changing the mind-set from literacy coaching to instructional coaching is a most difficult issue. We need to provide background knowledge and help teachers get where they need to be.*

**V. Topic: Graduation Credit and Home Schools-Competency Measure Project**

- a. **Discussion:** *Lynne stated that she has had several calls requesting information on home schooling. Counselors have been telling parents that they cannot accept high school credit for on-line classes. Please inform counselors of the credit policy for Utah's Electronic High School.*
- b. **Discussion:** *Dawn Hauser said that all the Curriculum Directors should have received a box of information regarding the Competency Measures Project.*  
[http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/directors/Competency\\_Measurements/index.htm](http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/directors/Competency_Measurements/index.htm) .  
*The assessments that are available are: Geography, Government, Earth Systems, World Languages, and Algebra I. The assessment for English Language Arts is in progress. The policy information is available on-line. Once parents find out about the tests, they are a bit hesitant about having their children take them for demonstrated competency. If there are students wishing to take the test, contact Dawn and she will send the necessary test to the district. The test must then be returned to Dawn. Security is a critical issue. Established regional testing centers are in St. George, Duchesne, Nebo, and Heber City. Dawn's phone number is 801-646-4547. Georgia Loutensock mentioned that with on-line schools, counselors may not know if a*

*school is accredited. Have counselors check their accreditation by contacting Georgia. She has the list. A list of accredited schools should be on the USOE website within a week.*

## **VI. Elementary Social Studies – New Core Curriculum**

- a. Discussion:** *Social Studies Specialist, Robert Austin, presented a slide show and handed out copies of a draft of a new Elementary Social Studies Core. He had met with several elementary teachers from the Salt Lake School District and felt that the meeting was very successful. The question, “Why teach elementary Social Studies?” was asked and Robert replied that it is to promote civic competence. The purpose is to help young people make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good. It has many components. We want Social Studies to be an opportunity for children to be successful. The new core will be for grades 3-6. The new core retains the framework of the existing core. Teachers have stated that they needed a core that is doable. Robert then presented slides numbering the revisions that were made in the core. (The revisions will be available on Robert’s web page; <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/socialstudies/default.htm>. Bring up any Core Curriculum for grades 3 through 6 to see this powerpoint. ) The core is as inclusive as possible and reflects diversity and critical thinking skills with rigorous objectives and indicators. Civic awareness and patriotic education remain vitally important. There are four themes that are built on every year. Teacher input is welcomed. Please have elementary teachers meet to look at the core. Robert will have an on-line survey for teachers after they’ve reviewed the core. Public hearings and Board approval will be next.*

## **VII. Topic: Curriculum Specialists Report**

- a. Brenda Hedden:** *(Power Point Presentation) Early College programs include Concurrent Enrollment, Advanced Placement, and International Scholarships. There are 912 courses in the main content areas including technology education. Studies show that there is a shortage of teachers nationwide along with para-professionals. Concurrent Enrollment has a payment of a one time fee. Legislators have guaranteed programs. The UACEP Alliance meets quarterly. They have been a beacon of strength for working with Concurrent Enrollment to define a more consistent policy with what they want to achieve. Higher education and advanced credit is allowed. There are no exams after the course to determine if students receive credit. The Master List is on the website. Many courses are available on WEBNET. November 30 is the date for new courses to be submitted to the Board of Regents. Courses offered in the district are the same as college courses with the scholarships. New Century, Utah Scholars, and other scholarships are available through Scholarship America.*
- b. Rick Gaisford:** *There will be a UCET Technology conference, February 29 –March 1, with David Pogue, writer for the New York*

*Times as the speaker. For more information go to [www.ucet.org](http://www.ucet.org). It will be held at Taylorsville High School.*

- c. **Alan Griffin:** *We are looking to integrate Life Skills subjects into other courses. A workshop will be coming up and have also planned to recognize teachers in Life Skills. They have created a pin with Life Skills areas on it and have contributed an award for exemplary achievements by teachers teaching Life Skills. Nomination forms can be found and filled out on-line. We are also interested in Service Learning. There will be a Youth Summit coming this summer. Posters are provided by the National Energy Foundation.*
- d. **Nicole Paulson:** *If you have purchased materials from 2007 funds, the office has a list of vendors of previously reviewed materials. Per current legislation, an independent alignment must be completed on materials purchased from any vendor. The RIMS review systems from USOE is not operating at this time. As soon as the third-party evaluation process is completed, RIMS will again be on-line. Charter schools are exempt from this constraint. The law states the alignment must to be done. Call Vali Kremer, USOE Materials Center, with questions.*
- e. **Ellie Brady:** *ELL Standards are available for use. A hard copy was handed out. Standards are available for K-12 and all content areas. An emphasis on language acquisition is done through the content areas. The ELL proficiency standards can be found on the website. Trainings will be provided during the spring and more information will come later.*
- f. **Becky Donaldson:** *(handout) Early Reading Applications: Make sure districts are aware that they are available if they are eligible.*

#### **VIII. Lunch Break**

#### **IX. Steering Committee Meeting-Competency Based Measures**

**Next Curriculum Director's Meeting: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at the Grant Center. The address is 105 S 400 East, Springville.** It is located a few blocks northeast of the Learning Center.